

University of California Cooperative Extension

4-H Club Notes

Madera County

November /December 2005

LCORT REGISTRATION DEADLINE - NOVEMBER 28

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2005 4-H Horse Expo

Madera County 4-H Skills Day
 Date: Sunday, November 6th
 Place: Madera Fairgrounds Horse
 Arena
 Registration: 11:00 a.m.
 Skills: 11:30 a.m.
 Awards: 4:00 p.m. -
 approximately

Help is needed at the Expo in many areas. If you are interested call Reann Himelick, 661-0343.

Written tests will be corrected Wednesday, November 2, 6:00 p.m. in the Demo Building.

Leaders Council Meeting

November 28, 2006, 7:00 p.m. in the Demo Building.

The Leaders Council meetings are open to all volunteer leaders and parents.

This is a good way to find out about upcoming events, how and why decisions are made and to have your questions answered. You may also find an area that you would be interested in helping.

Put the date on your calendar; plan to attend!

Madera County 4-H Horse Play Day

Date: **Sunday, December 4, 2005**
 Place: **Madera Fairgrounds Horse Arena**

Registration: **12:30 p.m.**
 Fee: **\$5.00** all day...all events

\$2.50 non-horse participants
 All 4-H members are invited to participate in the fun filled day of games, competition and friendship.

There will be events requiring horses and events without horses. Bring your parents as they will also play a game.

All 4-H members are invited to attend this fun day. Hope to see everyone December 4th at the Madera Fairgrounds horse arena.

- Horse Games: Musical Tires, Control Game, Suit Case Relay Race, Toilet Paper Race, Balloon Race.
- Non-Horse Games: Three Legged Race, Life Saver Relay Game, Obstacle Game, Musical Saddles, Balloon Toss.
- Special Race: Wheelbarrow Race

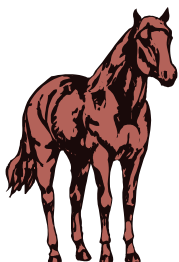
Leadership Conference of Regional Teens (LCORT)

Registration for LCORT 2006 Conference is due in the 4-H office **Monday, November 28.** The conference will run from **January 27-29** at the Wonder Valley Ranch in Sanger, CA. Members in the 7th, 8th and 9th grades are encouraged to attend. The fee is \$80 and includes registration materials, lodging for 2 nights, 3 meals on Saturday, 1 meal on Sunday and snack. Registration forms are available at the 4-H Office. *Chaperones are needed for both boys and girls.*

Applications are available from your Community Club Leader or at the 4-H Office.

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Joe D. Camarillo
 4-H Youth Development Advisor



Food Booths Available

The following food booths at county events are available as 4-H Club money makers or as a service to the County 4-H Program.

11/6/05	Horse Expo
12/4/05	Horse Play Day
1/23/2006	Favorite Foods Day Snack/Beverage
2/12/06	Small Animal Expo
3/12/2006	County Presentation Day
3/18/06	Large Animal Expo

The deadline for club sign-ups is Friday, December 9, 2005 on a first-come basis.

Horse Ownership Papers Due

Horse ownership papers are due in the 4-H Office by December 1 for members to be eligible for spring fairs.

Coming 4-H Events in 2006! Mark Your Calendars : Favorite Foods Day and Consumer Science Judging Day Scheduled

Favorite Foods Day and Consumer Science Judging will be held Saturday, January 23, 2006 at the Madera High School Cafeteria, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The January issue of Club Notes will have the flyer with all the information.



Small Animal Expo

February 12, 2006 at the Madera Fairgrounds, 1:00 p.m.

Details of above will be in January Club Notes

Leaders Council Meetings:

November 28
January 23
February 27
March 27

Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are open to all adults.

Out of County Trip Being Planned?

Out-of-County Trip Notifications **must** be submitted to the 4-H Office **3-working days** before the event for Joe's review. A group **must be supervised by a certified 4-H Volunteer Leader** (1 leader per 10 members). Timely notification to the office in advance of the event is imperative for insurance coverage.

4-H Levels of Membership

Primary (Mini) Members must be 7 years old or in 2nd grade (Madera County) as of January 1st of the Program year. The only approved animal projects for primary members are dogs, rabbits, rats, cats, poultry, cavies, mice, embryology, entomology, marine science, pygmy goats, and therapeutic animal projects.

Junior, Intermediate & Senior must be 9 years old or in 4th grade by January 1st of the Program year. For home schooled children, the age criteria only will apply.



Chowchilla-Madera County Junior Fair Board

The Chowchilla-Madera County Fair would like to notify you of the start of the Chowchilla-Madera County Junior Fair Board. Applications for potential Junior Fair Board members are now being accepted and are due to the Chowchilla-Madera County Fair office on Friday, December 2, 2005 by 5:00 p.m.

Applicants must be between the ages of 14 (freshman) and 20 years old and have a minimum GPA of 2.5. A copy of either a high school or college transcript and two (2) letters of recommendation must be submitted with the application.

Duties will include pre-fair activities, setting up events, help with Jr. Livestock Program and Auction, participate in the Opening Ceremonies, greet VIP guests, and much more.

Contact your Community Club Leader or the 4-H Office for an application.

Resources Available

The 4-H Office has many resources available to loan out to leaders in the form of videos, books, slides and some CDs. Printed lists of these items may be picked up at the office if you did not already receive one when you had your orientation. Please take advantage of these items.

Reminder to CCLs / New Volunteers

Volunteer application **must** be in to the 4-H Office, fingerprinting and orientation **must be completed** and the information entered into the 4-H database before any meetings are held..

When Teens Take the Wheel

By Irene S. Levine, Ladies Home Journal

One of the scariest moments in any parent's life is when she handed over the car keys to her teenager for the first time. And frankly, the fears are justified: The first 12 months or 1,000 miles of driving are the riskiest for any driver—and the news is worse when that new driver is only 16 and male. (Blame simple immaturity: Research suggests that teens' still developing brains make them more prone to take risks.) All teen drivers are four times more likely to be involved in fatal crashes than drivers over 25, but those who are just 16 are five times more likely. Fatal accidents involving boys at the wheel outnumber those for girls two to one. In all, nearly 5,000 teens annually die in car crashes, making this the No. 1 cause of death among this age group.

To help reduce accidents (in some cases by as much as 30 percent), 49 states have adopted "graduated licensing" laws that place restrictions on when and how 16-year-olds can drive. (Night driving, for example, is often forbidden.) Many states also require logging 25 to 50 hours of practice time with a parent in the care. "It's *all* about practice," says former race car driver Jeff Payne, founder of Driver's Edge (www.driversedge.org), a nonprofit program that teaches teens strategies for handling scary situations. "The goal is to give them emergency experience so they don't panic when they're in a crisis." (Owing to budget cutbacks, only 25 percent of schools, according to some estimates, offer driver's ed.)

Parental involvement is key, says Susan Ferguson, Ph.D., vice president of research at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Beyond insisting that teens buckle up *every single time* they're in a car, warn them in graphic terms about speeding and drinking (experts go so far as to recommend that teens watch crash videos, which Payne calls "a real wake-up call"). Parents should also adopt these guidelines:

Pick the right car. Focus on safety, not image. Large cars, station wagons and minivans tend to offer the best protection. SUVs and compact sporty models (the very cars teens often beg for) fare worse in crash tests. For ratings, go to www.safercar.gov.

Drive with your teen. "Parents should spend at least 40 hours in the car with their teen in a range of conditions, including night driving," says Karen Gravelle, author of *The Driving Book: Everything New Drivers Need to Know But Don't Know to Ask*. Don't expect police to pick up the slack—speed limits and other rules of the road often go unenforced. It's up to parents to instill proper driving habits (start with being a good role model). Dr. Ferguson also advocates putting your rules—and the punishment for breaking them—into a written contract your teen signs.

Make it clear that a car is not a social club. A sobering statistic: The risk of a crash nearly doubles when there's a second teen in the car with a teen driver and quadruples when there are three teen passengers. Sixty-five percent of teen passenger deaths occur in cars driven by another teen. "Know your child's friends, both as drivers and passengers," advises Gravelle. Many experts recommend imposing—and strictly enforcing—an upper limit of one non-adult passenger in a car at a time. And don't hesitate to veto your child's riding with a teen you distrust—or to revoke driving privileges if any of your rules are breached.

Campers!

Did you leave a disposable camera at camp? Three were found; Dina Petrucci developed the photos so stop by the 4-H office and see if one of these packets of pictures are yours. Also found was a key and someone's jeans.

